

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 ALGIER 01420 041437Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-13 ACDA-07 SSM-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00
CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00
NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12
/092 W

-----041439Z 072579 /41

R 041330Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ALGIERS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6594
INFO AMEMBASSY RABAT
AMEMBASSY TUNIS
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

C O N F I D E N T I A L ALGIERS 1420

BEIRUT FOR AMBASSADOR

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, AG, US
SUBJECT: ALGERIAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP WEEK IN ALGIERS

1. PAST WEEK HAS PROVIDED WARMEST ATMOSPHERE IN ALGERIAN-AMERICAN RELATIONS SINCE 1967 BREAK AND SYMBOLIZES SIGNIFICANT NEW MATURITY IN ALGERIAN ATTITUDES TOWARD US.

2. SPECIFICALLY, WEEK SAW:

A. IN UNPRECEDENTED ACT, ALGERIANS PUBLISHED TEXT OF SECRETARY'S 25 MAY MESSAGE TO BOUTEFLIKA ON FRONT PAGE OF OFFICIAL PRESS TWO DAYS AFTER DELIVERY.

B. ALGERIANS THEN PUBLISHED SUBSTANTIVE EXCERPTS FROM PRESIDENT CARTER 28 MAY LETTER TO BOUMEDIENE ON FRONT PAGE OF OFFICIAL PRESS, AGAIN ONLY TWO DAYS AFTER DELIVERY. BOUMEDIENE REPORTEDLY EXTREMELY PLEASED AT TONE AND SUBSTANCE OF LETTER.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 ALGIER 01420 041437Z

C. US PROPOSAL FOR SECRETARY/BOUTEFLIKA MEETING RECEIVED IMMEDIATE BOUTEFLIKA YES, INCITED GREAT INTEREST AND CONSIDERABLE ALGERIAN PREPARATION, AND OCCASIONED FAVORABLE COMMENT AND EXCELLENT LOCAL PRESS COVERAGE. (EXAMPLE OF LATTER CAME WHEN EMBOFF MENTIONED TO FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL THAT REPORT OF MEETING HAD BEEN LIMITED TO ARABIC PRESS; OFFICIAL RESPONDED THAT

OMISSION HAD BEEN NOTED AND THAT MINISTRY HAD ORDERED
REPORT INSERTED FOLLOWING DAY IN FRENCH-LANGUAGE PRESS;
IT WAS.)

D. ON BOUTEFLIKA'S PERSONAL INSTRUCTIONS, GOA
1 JUNE RELEASED THE FIVE AMERICANS HELD ON DRUG CHARGES IN ORDER,
WE ARE REPEATEDLY TOLD, TO "EXEMPLIFY EMERGING GOOD
RELATIONS".

E. ALGERIAN AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO US MAOUI DEPARTED
1 JUNE FOR US, FORTIFIED BY TOASTS AT CHARGE'S FAREWELL
DINNER AND PLEDGES AT AIRPORT STRESSING "NEW ERA" IN
ALGERIAN/AMERICAN RELATIONS.

FM ALGERIANS WENT ALL OUT FOR VISIT OF DEPUTY ASSISTANT
SECRETARY CHAPMAN 31 MAY - 2 JUNE, PROMOTING CHAPMAN TO
ASSISTANT SECRETARY IN MEDIA COVERAGE, PROVIDING HIM
PRESIDENCY LIMOUSINE WITH FLAG, DIVERTING FORMER DIRECTOR
OF CULTURAL AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS FROM VISITING SOVIET
DELEGATION TO ATTEND EVERY MEETING, ACCEPTING WITH LITTLE
DEMUR MOST OF US POINTS ON CULTURAL ACCORD, AND GIVING VISIT
PROMINENT NEWSPAPER AND TV COVERAGE.

3. PAST WEEKS EVENTS DO NOT MEAN THAT ALGERIANS HAVE TURNED
INTO COOPERATIVE ANGELS OR THAT THEY EVER WILL. AS WE
HAVE STRESSED BEFORE, DEEP PHILOSOPHICAL AND PRAGMATIC
DIFFERENCES WILL CONTINUE TO DIVIDE US. ALGERIANS HAVE
HARD CONCRETE REASONS TO PROMOTE IMAGE OF
AMERICAN/ALGERIAN COOPERATION: THEY NEED FRIENDS,
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 ALGIER 01420 041437Z

PARTICULARLY AT THIS MOMENT WHEN THEY ARE UNEASY OVER
SAHARA; THEY NEED FAVORABLE FPC ACTION ON GAS CONTRACTS;
THEY NEED ACCESS TO US FINANCING AND TECHNOLOGY.

4. WE DO SUGGEST THAT THIS PAST WEEK'S CORDIALITY REFLECTS
NEW MATURITY IN ALGERIA'S RELATIONS WITH US.

5. TWO YEARS OF PATIENT WORK BY AMBASSADOR PARKER TO REDUCE
SUSPICIONS AND BUILD CONFIDENCE HAVE BEEN FOLLOWED BY ADVENT
OF NEW ADMINISTRATION IN WASHINGTON. ALGERIANS PROFESS TO
BELIEVE THAT NEW US LEADERSHIP APPRECIATES ALGERIA AND
ALGERIAN VIEWPOINT ON ISSUES SUCH AS NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE
AND SOUTHERN AFRICA, AND TO ACCEPT THAT US IS GENUINELY
COMMITTED TO SEEKING PEACE IN MIDDLE EAST. RESULT HAS BEEN
SIGNIFICANT EROSION OF ALGERIAN CONVICTION THAT EVERY
AMERICAN ACTION IN REGION OR IN INTERNATIONAL ARENAS
IS AIMED AGAINST ALGERIA AND STEMS FROM INNATE AMERICAN
HOSTILITY TO ALGERIAN REGIME AND REVOLUTION.

6. ALGIERS VISITS OF HABIB AND CLIFFORD AND OUR TAKING ALGERIANS MORE INTO OUR CONFIDENCE ON DIPLOMATIC MOVES IN MIDDLE EAST HAVE ACCELERATED THIS EROSION. ALGERIANS RECIPROCATED BY WARM WELCOMES FOR NATIONAL WAR COLLEGE AND MEDICAL AND AGRICULTURAL TEAMS, BY ALGERIAN MESSAGE TO IRAQIS AND BY MODERATION AT MAPUTO.

7. IN THIS ENVIRONMENT, ARRIVAL IN SAME WEEK OF LETTERS FROM SECRETARY AND PRESIDENT AND PROPOSALS FOR SECRETARY-BOUTEFLIKA MEETING PROVIDED FINAL TOUCH TO PROCESS OF BUILDING BRIDGE TO ALGERIAN LEADERSHIP, AND RESULTED IN PAST WEEK'S ALGERIAN GESTURES.

8. US/ALGERIAN RELATIONS ON MULTILATERAL ECONOMIC AND POLITICAL ISSUES WILL CONTINUE TO BE DIFFICULT, AND OUR BILATERAL RELATIONS WILL HVE THEIR BAD MOMENTS TO COMPENSATE FOR THESE GOOD ONES. STALEMATE ON NORTH-SOUTH
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 ALGIER 01420 041437Z

DIALOGUE OR IN MIDEAST AND AFRICA AND FPC TURNDOWN OF GAS CONTRACTS COULD WELL REINTRODUCE SOUR NOTES INTO OUR RELATIONS.

9. WE BELIEVE, HOWEVER, THAT RECENT EVENTS REFLECT SIGNIFICANT GROWTH IN REGIME'S MATURITY. CURRENT ATMOSPHERE SUGGESTS ALGERIANS UNLIKELY TO REVERT TO PAST OVERT AND AUTOMATIC HOSTILITY EXCEPT IN CASE OF MAJOR CONFLAGRATION IN MIDDLE EAST OR ERUPTION OF OPEN ALGERIAN/MOROCCAN CONFLICT. DIMINUTION OF ALGERIANS' FORMER BLIND SUSPICION AND INCREASE IN ALGERIAN MATURITY SHOULD PROVIDE TOLERABLE ATMOSPHERE FOR FUTURE DIALOGUE, REPLACING POISONOUS ATMOSPHERE IN WHICH OUR RELATIONS HAVE BEEN CONDUCTED FOR PAST TEN YEARS.LYNE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMITY, PUBLICITY CAMPAIGNS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 04-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ALGIER01420
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770200-0059
Format: TEL
From: ALGIERS
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770690/aaaadbge.tel
Line Count: 153
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 7b9b4685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12-Nov-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2279230
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ALGERIAN-AMERICAN FRIENDSHIP WEEK IN ALGIERS
TAGS: PFOR, AG, US
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/7b9b4685-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009